



2661
#3
SP
8-12-03

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64156

Kazuo OOYA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/837,487

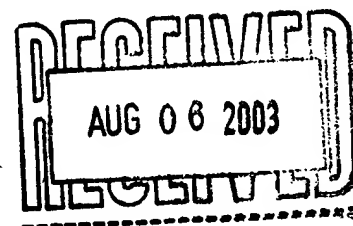
Group Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: April 19, 2001

For: ELECTRONIC AUDIT SYSTEM AND ELECTRONIC AUDIT METHOD



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
JUL 31 2003
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. "Environmental management systems - Specification with guidance for use", JIS Q 41001, October 20, 1996, pp. 1-19.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

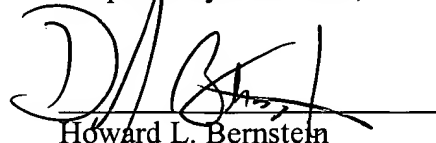
OOYA et al.
Appln. No. 09/837,487
Information Disclosure Statement

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Applicants have been advised by the Japanese Patent Office that a third party has submitted an Information Submission Form dated May 6, 2003 in the Japanese Patent Application on which U.S. Application No. 09/837,487 claims priority. Therefore, Applicants have enclosed a copy of the Information Submission Form in Japanese (attachment A), a copy of the Identification of the Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-121419 (attachment B), and a copy of the reference (attachment C). An English translation of attachment A, Sections 4.5.4 and A.5.3 of the reference and attachment C is also enclosed.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 30, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

Application Number	09/837,487
Confirmation Number	Unknown
Filing Date	April 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazuo Ooya
Art Unit	2661
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	O64156

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		"Environmental management systems - Specification with guidance for use", JIS Q 41001, October 20, 1996, pp. 1-19	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.